

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A valve for closing a container and for enabling the container to be filled, said valve comprising

a housing with an inlet port and an outlet port wherein said inlet port is adapted for connection to a fluid source , said connection being selected from the group of indirect and direct connections, and wherein said outlet port is adapted for connection to said container said connection being selected from the group of indirect and direct connections;

a closing member; and

at least one valve member which in a first position allows fluid communication between said inlet port and said outlet port and which, in a second position, prevents fluid communication from said inlet port to said outlet port, wherein said valve member is separate from the closing member and is brought into and maintained in said first position only if a static pressure difference across said valve member is below a pre-determinable first threshold.

2. (Previously presented) A valve according to claim 1, wherein said valve member has force-generating means adapted for providing a balancing force to said valve member and for bringing said valve member into said first position when said filling condition is fulfilled.

3. (Previously presented) A valve according to claim 2, wherein said force-generating means have a spring.

4. (Withdrawn) A valve according to claim 1, wherein the valve member has an internal part comprised in said valve which can be operatively connected with an external part external to said valve for bringing and maintaining said valve member into said first position.

5. (Withdrawn) A valve according to claim 4, wherein said internal part has a first magnet or a magnetisable element providing a balancing force for bringing said valve member into said first position when said valve is brought into proximity with an external part having a second magnet.

6. (Previously presented) A valve according to claim 1, wherein said closing member is formed as a check valve.

7. (Previously presented) A valve according to claim 6, wherein said check valve and said valve member are formed on a body movable in a chamber of said housing between said inlet port and said outlet port.

8. (Previously presented) A valve according to claim 6, wherein said check valve comprises a pin attached to an end of said check valve directed towards said inlet port.

9. (Previously presented) A valve according to claim 7, wherein said housing has a chamber divided in to an upstream chamber and a downstream chamber in communication with one another,

wherein said upstream chamber is adapted for reciprocatingly accommodating said closing member, and

wherein said downstream chamber is adapted for reciprocatingly accommodating said valve member at least between said first and second position.

10. (Withdrawn) A valve according to claim 5, wherein said downstream chamber is adapted for aligning movement of said valve member in the direction of magnetic attraction or repulsion between said internal part and said external part.

11. (Previously presented) A system for filling a container with a fluid exclusively from an authorised fluid source, comprising a pressure regulating means in fluid

communication to said fluid source and adapted for connection with a valve on said container, said valve comprising

- a housing with an inlet port and an outlet port wherein said inlet port is adapted for direct or indirect connection to a fluid source and wherein said outlet port is adapted for direct or indirect connection to said container;

- a closing member;

- and at least one valve member which in a first position allows fluid communication between said inlet port and said outlet port and which, in a second position, prevents fluid communication from said inlet port to said outlet port,

- wherein said valve member is brought into and maintained in said first position only if a static pressure difference across said valve member is below a pre-determinable first threshold;

wherein said pressure regulating means is designed to maintain the pressure of the fluid supplied to said container below a pre-determined or pre-determinable first threshold selected in such a way that said valve member of said valve is brought into and maintained in said first position.

12. (Previously presented) A system according to claim 11, wherein said system has fluid flow rate sensing means for measuring the flow of liquid into said container , said system further comprising control means operatively connected to said pressure regulating means and said fluid flow rate sensor means.

13. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~11~~ 12, wherein said pressure regulating means is adapted for providing a delivery pressure of a pre-determined minimum magnitude and for increasing the delivery pressure in a manner controllable via said control means.

14. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~11~~ 12, wherein during operation of the system relating to the filling of a container from a fluid source (699)

connected to that system, said control means initially commands the pressure regulation means to provide a delivery pressure of a magnitude below a first predetermined threshold value and then to increase the delivery pressure, maintaining the fluid flow rate within a pre-determined range.

15. (Withdrawn) A system according to claim 11, wherein the system further comprises an external part of said force-generating means which can be brought in operative connection with an internal part) of a force-generating means said valve for bringing and maintaining said valve member into said first position.

16. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~11~~ 12, wherein the system comprises means for weighing (~~770~~) said container, said means for weighing being coupled to said control means.

17. (Previously presented) A refillable container for storing fluids, wherein said container is provided with a valve, said valve comprising

- a housing with an inlet port and an outlet port wherein said inlet port is adapted for direct or indirect connection to a fluid source and wherein said outlet port is adapted for direct or indirect connection to said container;
- a closing member;
- and at least one valve member which in a first position allows fluid communication between said inlet port and said outlet port and which, in a second position, prevents fluid communication from said inlet port to said outlet port, wherein said valve member is brought into and maintained in said first position only if a static pressure difference across said valve member is below a pre-determinable first threshold.

18. (Previously presented) A container according to claim 17, wherein the valve is permanently connected to an opening of said container.

19. (Previously presented) A method for filling a container having a valve with a fluid from a fluid source, said valve comprising

- a housing with an inlet port and an outlet port wherein said inlet port is adapted for direct or indirect connection to a fluid source and wherein said outlet port is adapted for direct or indirect connection to said container;

- a closing member;

- and at least one valve member which in a first position allows fluid communication between said inlet port and said outlet port and which, in a second position, prevents fluid communication from said inlet port to said outlet port, wherein said valve member is brought into and maintained in said first position only if a static pressure difference across said valve member is below a pre-determinable first threshold;

the method comprising the steps of:

- a) connecting the valve to said fluid source

- b) controlling the delivery pressure of said fluid at said inlet port of said valve such as to maintain the static pressure difference across a valve member of said valve below a predetermined or predeterminable first threshold.

20. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein step b) comprises the sub-steps of

- b1) initially providing a static delivery pressure to said inlet port of said valve that is less than a predetermined second threshold during a predetermined or predeterminable period of time

- b2) after step b1, increasing said delivery pressure continuously or in a plurality of steps.

21. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein step b comprises the sub-steps of

- b3) initially providing a delivery static pressure to said inlet port which is less

than a second threshold value

b4) measuring the fluid flow rate of fluid flowing into said valve

b5) if said fluid flow rate is decreasing, then increasing the magnitude of said delivery static pressure in a predetermined or predeterminable manner

b6) continuing steps b4 and b5 until the measured fluid rate is zero.

22. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein step b) comprises the further sub steps of

b7) measuring the static pressure at said inlet port

b8) if said static pressure in said step is within a pre-determined third threshold value of the magnitude of the pressure of the container when full, discontinuing filling of container and disconnecting the valve from said fluid source

b9) if said static pressure in step b7) is less than a pre-determined third threshold value of the magnitude of the pressure of the container when full, discontinuing filling of container, releasing pressure in the valve upstream of the outlet port, resuming filling of container and continuing with steps b7) to b8).

23. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein before and/or during the filling procedure, the weight of the container is continuously measured.